

Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Conference Summary



Overview

The 2011 Legislature has proposed an Agriculture & Natural Resources budget totaling \$2.5 billion, which is a \$306 million (13.96 percent) increase over the 2010-11 fiscal year appropriation. The budget includes \$212 million in General Revenue, which is a \$2.6 million (1.2 percent) decrease from the previous year and \$2,283 million in trust funds, which is a \$308.8 million (15.6 percent) increase over the previous year. The budget includes funding for 8,879.25 authorized positions which is 255 fewer (2.76 percent) than the previous fiscal year.

Key Issues

- Provides \$100 million in funding for restoration projects to address injuries to natural resources caused by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.
- Provides \$305 million in budget authority from the sale of surplus lands and interest earnings in which the proceeds will be used to purchase conservation lands.
- Provides authority to spend \$9.8 million from BP to conduct food safety testing and a high-visibility seafood marketing campaign.
- Provides \$128 million in funding for the clean-up of contaminated petroleum sites.
- Provides \$29.9 million for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan and the implementation of the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Program.
- Provides \$255.4 million in financial assistance to local governments for construction of critical environmental infrastructure and drinking water systems.
- Eliminates 255 positions; more than one-half of which are vacant, some more than 120 days and some as long as five years.
- Reduces funding for managing aquatic and terrestrial invasive plants from \$35 million to \$28.5 million.
- Transfers \$57.6 million from state trust funds generated by documentary stamp taxes.
- Provides \$16.3 million for new Beach Restoration Projects.

Breakdown

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

- \$349.1 million budget, which is an increase of \$12.3 million (3.6 percent) over the 2010-11 fiscal year appropriation; 129.5 positions eliminated (3.5 percent).

Department of Citrus

- \$67.4 million budget, which is a decrease of \$432,311 (0.65 percent) over the 2010-11 fiscal year appropriation; 8 positions eliminated (1.76 percent).

Department of Environmental Protection

- \$1.79 billion budget, which is an increase of \$303.9 million (20.4 percent) over the 2010-11 fiscal year appropriation; 117.5 positions eliminated (3.3 percent decrease).

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

- \$287.6 million budget, which is a decrease of 10.1 million (3.4 percent) under the 2010-11 fiscal year appropriation.

Trust Funds Swept

Department of Environmental Protection

Ecosystem Mgmt & Restoration	\$12.1million
Inland Protection	\$5.5 million
Land Acquisition	\$21 million
Solid Waste Management	\$0.5 million
Water Mgmt Lands	\$10 million
Water Quality Assurance	\$2 million

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Invasive Plant Control Trust Fund	\$6.5 million
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